

DOCUMENT No. 5298

Page 1.

AFFIDAVIT OF DENIS BRIAN MASON.

I, No 145281 F/O DENIS BRIAN MASON, RAF, at present stationed at Cosford nr. Wolverhampton, and with permanent home address at 15, Chalkpit Terrace, Dorking, make oath and say as follows:-

When I arrived at LAHAT Camp from Amboina town on 18 August 1944 I found that there was no accommodation for my party as the camp was already very badly overcrowded. The Japs took us to some huts on the outskirts of the camp that had been occupied by a Javanese Labour Battalion from Java.

Part of the huts were still occupied by the remainder of the Battalion i.e. their rotting corpses. We had to dispose of these corpses and extend the existing accommodation to make room for the incoming party of British and Dutch POWs.

This new part of the camp was now joined to the existing one.

A Jap staff were of course already operating. This was augmented by the addition of Jap Lt. Kurishima. Jap Sgt. Mori, Korean interpreter Kasama and numerous Koreans.

Senior British Officer was Major Gibson, RA/AA.

A few days later Major (now Col.) Anami joined the camp.

Accommodation was shockingly overcrowded, each PW of which there were about four thousand, was lucky to have 12 sq. ft. per man. My party had to lie on the earth floor.

Water was reasonable, being obtained from a spring.

Food was very bad, consisting of never more than 150 grammes of rice a day and nothing else.

Sickness and deaths among the POW still continued at an alarming rate.

Working parties still continued principally loading ships.

No clothing, boots or bedding etc. was issued to us.

No recreation or Church services were allowed. Nor were any letters or Red cross parcels ever received by us while we were there.

Medical supplies were almost unobtainable. The only medical supplies we had, were those scrounged by the POW from the Jap stores whilst loading the ships.



Even the British CC camp and all the PW Officers, including the very sick had to work constructing ARP trenches for the Japanese.

With regard to personalities there was a particularly brutal and cruel Korean named KAMINOKA who was employed in the PW cookhouse. Previously I had been badly beaten by the man at LIANG Camp. He used to take a special delight in maltreating British Officers. I remember two PW Officers in particular, whom he almost killed in this camp. They were F/O Meathrel and F/O J. Reece, now both dead. KAMINOKA was nicknamed "CYCLOPS".

SWORN by the said	)	
DENIS BRIAN MASON	)	
at 6 Spring Gardens in	)	D.B.MASON
the City of Westminster	)	
this 8th day of February, 1946.	)	

BEFORE ME

(Signed) A.M. Bell Macdonald,  
Major,  
Legal Staff,  
Office of the Judge Advocate General,  
London.

口 供 書

5298-1

Ex 1826-A

自分ハ英國空軍ノ第一四五二八番、飛行士官ノ「デ  
DENIS DRAZEN MEISON (F/O)  
(WOLFEHARTON)」ノ近ク、「(COSEFORD)」ニ  
居リ本籍地ハ「(DORCHETER)」ノ「CHALK PIT  
TERRACE)」十五番地ニアル

自分ハ宣誓シテ次ノコトヲ述ベル  
自分ガ一九四四年八月十八日「(アンボイナ)」ノ町カ  
ラ「(アハート)」ニ着イタ時収容所ハ既に甚シク充満  
シテ居リ自分等一行ノ宿所ハナカツタ。日本人ハ我  
々ヲ収容所ノ端ニアル小舎ニ連れて行ツタ。其所ハ  
「ヂャバ」カラ來タ「ジャバ」労働者隊ノ屋タ後デ  
アツタ。

其小舎ノ一部ニハ尙其部隊ノ残留者ガ居住シテ居タ、  
即チ彼等ノ腐爛シタ死骸ガ埋サレテ居タ。我々ハ此  
等ノ死骸ヲ處分シ、又後續ノ英國ヤ和蘭ノ俘虜ノ部  
隊ノ爲ノ塋所ヲ作ル爲、現存ノ宿舎ヲ擴張シナケレ  
バナラナカツタ。此新設ノ部分ハ収容所ノ、既存ノ  
部分ニ連接サレタ。

宿舎ヘヒドク延増員デアツタ。約四千人ノ俘虜ハ各  
人十二平方フットノ塋所ヲ得レバ幸運デアツタ。  
自分等ノ隊ハ土陵ノ上ニ築ナケレバナラナカツタ。  
水ハ泉カラ取ツタノデヨカツタ。



5298-2

食糧ハ甚ダヒドカツタ。何時モ一日米百五十グラム以上ハナカツタ。其ノ他ニハ何モナカツタ。

俘虜ノ間ニハ病氣ト死亡ガ驚クベキ率デ繼續シタ。労働スル限ハナホ緩キ。主ニ船ノ貨物ノ積込デアツタ。

衣服、靴、寝具等ハ我々ニ給與サレナカツタ。

娯樂、教會ノ禮拜等ハ許サレナカツタ。

又、其所ニ居ル間、我々ハ一度モ手紙ヤ赤十字ノ小包ヲ受取ツタ事ハナカツタ。

藥品ハ殆ド手ニ入ラナカツタ。我々ノ唯一ノ藥品給與ハ船ノ積荷ノ際ニ俘虜ガ日本ノ倉庫カラ盗ミ取ツテクルモノダツタ。

重病人マデモ含ム總テノ俘虜士官、英國ノ指揮官サヘ日本人用ノ防空壕<sup>(Air trenches)</sup>構築ノ仕事ヲツナケレバナラナカツタ。

人物ニ付テハ俘虜ノ料理場ノ使用人ノ「カミノカ」ト云フ朝鮮人ガ特別殘酷デアツタ。曾テ自分ヘ「リアンダ」ノ收容所ニ於テ彼ニヒドク打タレタコトガアル。彼ハ特ニ英國ノ士官ヲ虐待スルコトニ喜ビヲ感ジテキタ。自分ハ此ノ收容所テ彼ガ殆ド殺シタニ

(人ノ俘虜士官ヲ特ニ記應シテキル。彼等ハ飛行士官「ミースレル」ト飛行士官「デエドリス」ト兩<sup>(Xclop)</sup>人共ニ死亡シタ。「カミノカ」ハ「片田」ト渾名サレテ居タ。